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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT: Davey CONFIRMATION NO. 6730
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/556,102 ART UNIT: 3763
FILING DATE: April 21, 2000 EXAMINER: Desanto, Matthew F.
TITLE: Valved Introducer Sheath and Related Methods

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP NO. 3763

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This paper is submitted in response to the pending Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 15, 2003. Applicant submits that no extension-of-time, or related fee, is required for this Amendment and Response to be entered and considered. However, please consider this a conditional petition for the proper extension, if one is required, and a conditional authorization to charge any related extension fees or other fees necessary for entry of this paper to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Please make the following amendments, without prejudice, and consider the following remarks.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-10, 11, 24, and 35 without prejudice, and amend claims 12, 13, 17, 21-23, 25, 26, 30, 33, 34, 36-39, 42, 44, and 45 as set forth in the attached marked-up version of the amended claims to read as follows. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked up version of the claim amendment is attached at the end of this Amendment and Response.



Patent Mail
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AF/3763

TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	09/556,102
Filing Date	April 21, 2000
First Named Inventor	Davey
Group Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	Desanto, Matthew F.
Attorney Docket No.	BSC-134
Patent No.	Not applicable
Issue Date	Not applicable

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Direct all correspondence to: Patent Administrator
Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, LLP
High Street Tower.
125 High Street
Boston, MA 02110
Tel. No.: (617) 248-7000
Fax No.: (617) 248-7100

SIGNATURE BLOCK

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda P. Moore
Attorney for Applicant
Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, LLP
High Street Tower
125 High Street
Boston, MA 02110
Date: March 17, 2003
Reg. No. 44,244
Tel. No.: (617) 248-7044
Fax No.: (617) 248-7100



PATENT
Atty. Docket No.: BSC-134
(1002/178)

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TITLE: Valved Introducer Sheath and Related Methods

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as enclosed herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this 17th day of March, 2003.

March 17, 2003
Date

Shayna Fischer
Shayna Fischer

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith are:

Transmittal Form (1 pg.); Amendment and Response (11 pgs.); this
Certificate of First Class Mailing and a return receipt postcard.